

Abstract of the Disclosure

A software-implemented, distributed service integration system which provides an open environment for the development of new services, and their integration with the existing network, with the integration being performed by the service integration system administrator, which is also responsible for the service development. Thus, the procedure of developing and integrating of new services is shorter and cheaper than is common in telephony service integration systems. An example of a new service which is integrated with the existing network infrastructure includes the development by the service developer of a sophisticated billing service that uses a carrier's billing infrastructure. The inventive system also provides, through a modifiable policy defined by the system administrator, service-level control of the packet flow both within the service integration system and between the service integration system and the communications network. The inventive system also provides visibility into the signaling process to services deployed on it, offering direct communication with different protocols such as IP, SS7 etc., by means of network adaptation components.